

Capitol Theatre
218-220 North Centre Street
Pottsville
Schuylkill County
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-5202

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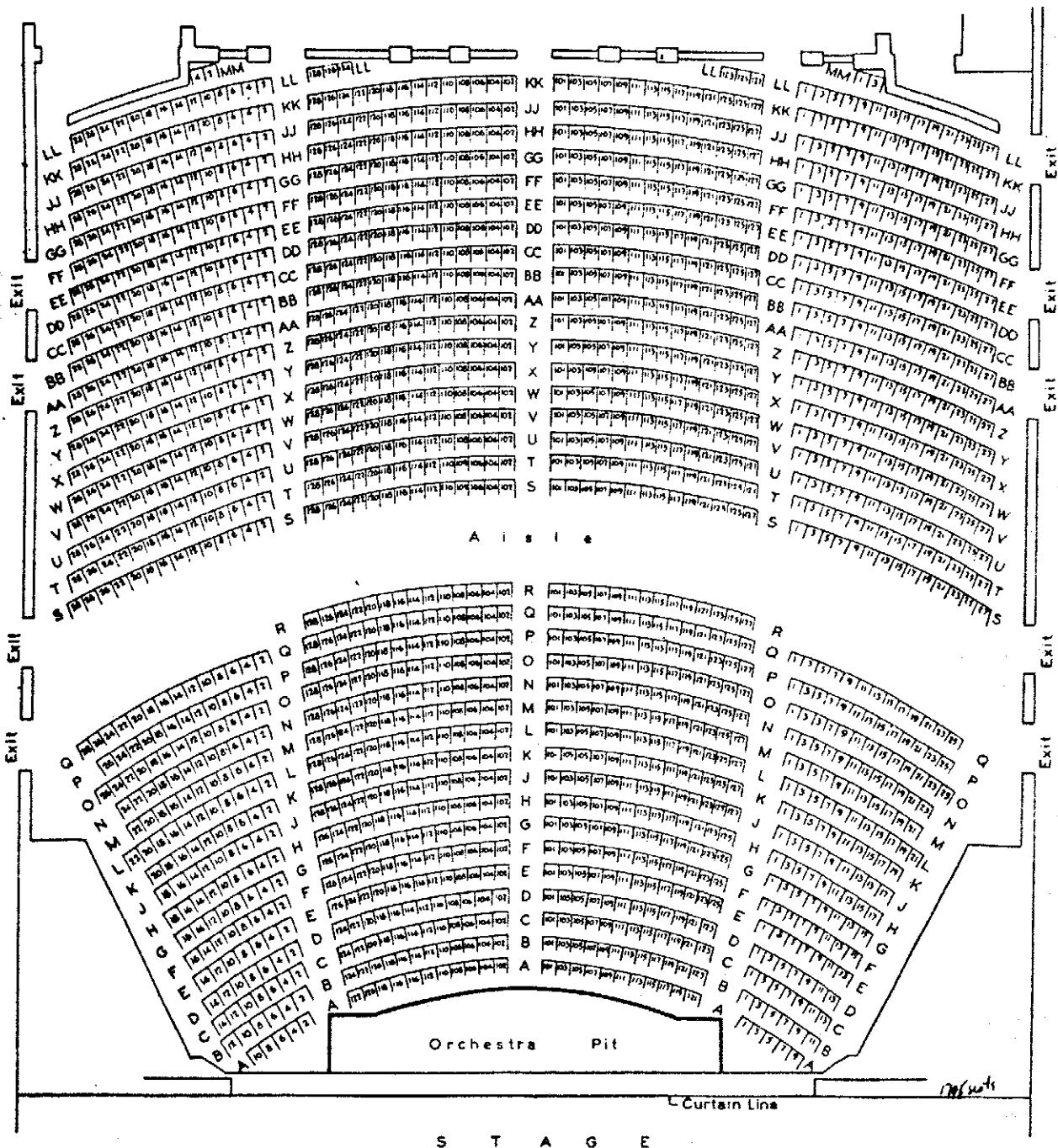
PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
MID-ATLANTIC REGION NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19106

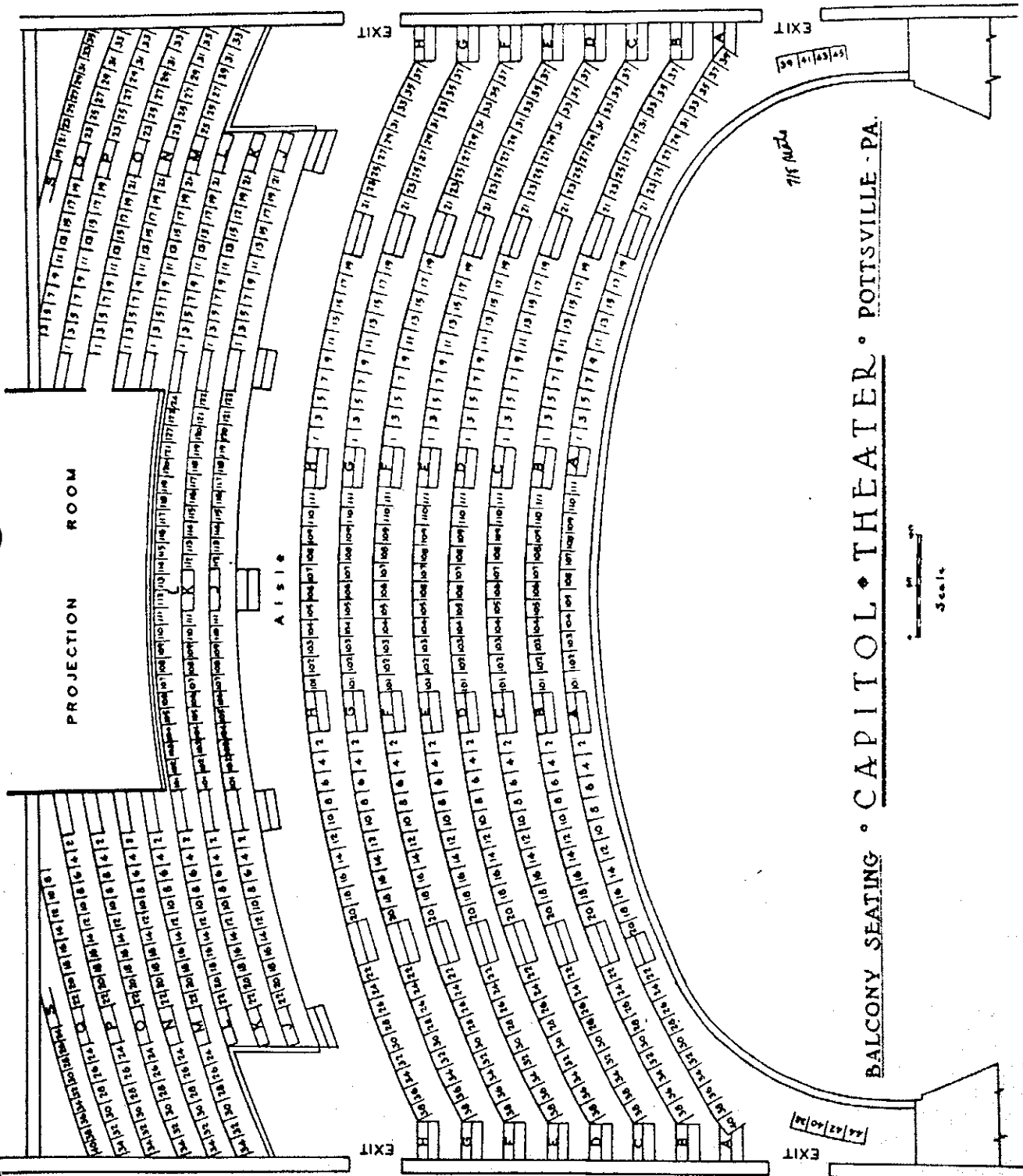
HABS
PA
POTTSVILLE

STATE Pennsylvania	COUNTY Schuylkill	TOWN OR VICINITY Pottsville
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) Capitol Theatre		HABS NO. PA-5202
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE NA		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) 218/20 North Centre Street, Pottsville, PA 17901		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) Schuylkill County Historical Society - 1927	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) Unknown	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) Complex of Spanish Colonial Revival design. Constructed in 1927 of cast stone terra cotta block and brick, the Capitol was specially built for sound and was considered as the 'ace' Comford Theatre. The Capitol Theatre is one of the largest movie theatres in Pennsylvania with a seating capacity of 2,700.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) Spanish Colonial Revival		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Steel columns w/concrete and wood floors, facing wall and part of the north side wall are comprised of tan brick with cast stone. Rear and side walls constructed w/terra cotta block.		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) 'L' shaped building. Basement plus 3 stories. 1st floor theatre, 2nd and 3rd floors were apartments. Theatre contained approximately 19, 012 sq. ft.		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE Very little detailing on building's exterior. Historically significant detailing was found in the interior of the theatre.		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) Elaborate Spanish decor w/high ceilings. Main floor seated approximately 2,000 with the balcony seating 718. Sculptured ornate plaster on ceiling, walls, doorways and border area of stage. Two tiled water gargoyles, wood columns, metal wall sconces, and chandeliers. Professional stage w/orchestra pit. Frized cranberry seats.		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES Interior of strong Moorish style. NA		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE Theatre has been closed for 6 years. Roof has collapsed in areas causing complete interior deterioration.		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE Documentation was prepared in compliance with a Memorandum of Agreement with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. File NO. ER81-107-0850.		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDE LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) Theatre is located in the Pottsville National Historic District. Historical information secured from the Schuylkill County Historical Society.		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Laura L. Hill, Director Bureau of Economic & Community Development Pottsville, PA		DATE July, 1982



ORCHESTRA SEATING ° CAPITOL THEATRE ° POTTSVILLE PENNA.

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R. B. Borden